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CHICAGO 9, ILLINOIS
LIVESTOCK BRANCH
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
LIVESTOCK BRANCH
CHICAGO 9, ILLINOIS

SECRET
A. V. Noble

TELEPHONE
YARDS 6520

CATTLE FEEDING SITUATION, NOVEMBER 1, 1945

WASHINGTON, D.C., NOVEMBER 13, 1945 - (USDA) - - AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF CATTLE FED DURING THE COMING WINTER FEEDING SEASON OVER A YEAR EARLIER IS INDICATED BY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CATTLE FEEDING SITUATION DURING OCTOBER. IT NOW SEEMS PROBABLE THAT MORE CATTLE WILL BE FED FOR MARKET BOTH IN THE ELEVEN CORN BELT STATES AND IN FEEDING STATES OUTSIDE THE CORN BELT THAN WERE FED LAST YEAR, WITH THE TOTAL ON FEED JANUARY 1, 1946 NEAR A RECORD NUMBER. THE UNUSUALLY KEEN DEMAND FOR FEEDER CATTLE EVIDENCED IN OCTOBER IS EXPECTED TO CONTINUE THROUGH NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER AND, IF CATTLE ARE AVAILABLE, THE MOVEMENT INTO FEEDING AREAS WILL CONTINUE LARGE.

SHIPMENTS OF STOCKER AND FEEDER CATTLE INTO THE CORN BELT STATES IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR WERE THE LARGEST ON RECORD FOR THE MONTH. FOR THE EIGHT STATES, FOR WHICH RECORDS OF TOTAL IN-SHIPMENTS ARE AVAILABLE, THE TOTAL THIS YEAR WAS 669,000 COMPARED WITH 525,000 IN OCTOBER LAST YEAR, AN INCREASE OF 27 PER CENT. THE LARGEST PREVIOUS OCTOBER NUMBER WAS 610,000 IN 1940. THE THREE LEADING FEEDING STATES, IOWA, ILLINOIS, AND NEBRASKA, ALL HAD RECORD NUMBERS FOR OCTOBER. THE INCREASE OVER OCTOBER LAST YEAR WAS IN BOTH SHIPMENTS FROM MARKETS AND DIRECTS. RECORDS OF MARKET SHIPMENTS INDICATE THAT OCTOBER SHIPMENTS INTO OTHER CORN BELT STATES WERE LARGER THAN LAST YEAR.

FOR THE FOUR MONTHS, JULY THROUGH OCTOBER, TOTAL SHIPMENTS INTO THE EIGHT STATES WERE 1,315,000 COMPARED WITH 1,234,000 LAST YEAR. SHIPMENTS INTO THE FIVE EASTERN CORN BELT STATES OF 460,000 WERE 31 PER CENT LARGER THAN LAST YEAR AND THE LARGEST SINCE 1940. THE TOTAL FOR THE THREE WESTERN CORN BELT STATES WAS 855,000 THIS YEAR AND 882,000 LAST.

IN ADDITION TO THE LARGE SHIPMENTS INTO THE CORN BELT STATES THIS YEAR THERE HAS ALSO BEEN A HEAVY INTRA-STATE MOVEMENT OF FEEDER CATTLE FROM GROWING TO FEEDING AREAS IN SOUTH DAKOTA AND NEBRASKA.

REPORTS FROM FEEDING STATES OUTSIDE THE CORN BELT INDICATE THAT MORE CATTLE WILL BE FED IN THESE STATES THIS COMING WINTER THAN WERE FED LAST WINTER. A REDUCTION IN FEEDING OPERATIONS IN THE FOUR SOUTHWESTERN STATES OF OKLAHOMA, TEXAS, NEW MEXICO, AND ARIZONA IS EXPECTED IN VIEW OF THE REDUCTION IN THE PRODUCTION OF COTTON SEED, BUNDLE FEEDS AND GRAIN SORGHUMS AND THE LATE WINTER WHEAT PASTURES. IN ALL THE OTHER WESTERN STATES AS MANY OR MORE CATTLE WILL BE FED. INCREASED SUPPLIES OF SUGAR BEET FEEDS AND BARLEY AND A CONSIDERABLE ACREAGE OF SOFT CORN WILL ENCOURAGE INCREASED CATTLE FEEDING IN COLORADO. UNUSUALLY HEAVY IN-SHIPMENTS OF CATTLE INTO CALIFORNIA FROM OTHER STATES FROM AUGUST TO OCTOBER INDICATE A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN CATTLE FEEDING IN THAT STATE. SHIPMENTS OF FEEDER CATTLE INTO THE LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA AREA HAVE BEEN MUCH LARGER THIS YEAR THAN LAST.

THE RATHER EXTENSIVE FROST DAMAGE TO CORN IN LEADING CORN BELT FEEDING STATES IN THE LATTER PART OF SEPTEMBER AND EARLY OCTOBER WAS REFLECTED IN AN EXPANDED DEMAND FOR FEEDER CATTLE DURING OCTOBER. AS A RESULT THERE WAS NOT ONLY A RECORD MOVEMENT OF FEEDER CATTLE INTO THESE STATES IN OCTOBER BUT PRICES OF FEEDER CATTLE, THAT HAD BEEN DECLINING SINCE JULY, ADVANCED DURING THE MONTH. THE AVERAGE COST OF FEEDER CATTLE SHIPPED INTO THE CORN BELT IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR WAS THE HIGHEST FOR ANY OCTOBER ON RECORD AND THE TOTAL COST OF SUCH CATTLE TO CORN BELT FEEDERS FOR THESE OCTOBER IN-SHIPMENTS WAS THE LARGEST FOR ANY MONTH ON RECORD. THIS STRONG DEMAND FOR FEEDER CATTLE IS EXPECTED TO CONTINUE IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER.

SINCE A RELATIVELY LARGE NUMBER OF CATTLE ARE BEING FED THIS YEAR TO HELP SALVAGE FROST DAMAGED CORN, IT IS TO BE EXPECTED THAT A LARGER THAN USUAL PROPORTION OF THE CATTLE FED THIS SEASON WILL BE MARKETED DURING THE WINTER MONTHS. HENCE, RATHER LARGE SUPPLIES OF SHORT-FED AND ONLY PARTLY FINISHED CATTLE ARE PROBABLE FROM DECEMBER THROUGH FEBRUARY. ON THE OTHER HAND, RECORDS OF SHIPMENTS FROM FOUR LEADING MARKETS SHOW A MUCH LARGER MOVEMENT OF FEEDER CALVES DURING THE FOUR MONTHS, JULY TO OCTOBER, THIS YEAR THAN LAST, AND THE PROPORTION OF CALVES AND OF LIGHTWEIGHT STEERS TO TOTAL SHIPMENTS FROM THESE MARKETS WAS ABOUT AVERAGE.

L. M. WYATT,
LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE.

STJ. 11/13/45. 1:00 P.M. (CST)

RELEASED BY
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.
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UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA



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